[English]

Drought Threat In Gujarat

664. *KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIYA: Will the Minister of RURAL AREAS & EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:*

(a) whether Gujarat State is facing threat of drought;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL AREAS AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI CHANDRADEO PRASAD VARMA): (a) and (b) According to information received from the Government of Gujarat, the State Government has declared drought conditions in 1733 villages in the districts of Kutch, Jamnagar, Bhavnagar and Rajkot due to deficient rains during South-West Monsoon, 1996.

(c) The State Government is undertaking necessary relief measures in the affected areas. Government of India has already released their share of Calamity Relief Fund for 1996-97 amounting to Rs. 104.70 crores for this purpose.

Impact of Cyclones

665. DR. SUBRAHMANYAM NELAVALA:
DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:

Will the Minister of SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether several State Government have undertaken programmes for educating the impact of cyclones in the coastal areas including the Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu;

(b) whether the Government propose to have a net work of cyclones warning centres in the coastal areas;

(c) whether the foolproof measures and programmes for reducing the impact of cyclones have been fully considered by the Government; and

(d) if so, the action programme prepared in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Six Cyclone Warning Centres are already operating along the east and west coasts of the country covering all the coastal areas of maritime States.

(c) and (d) A proven and reliable system for cyclone warning and its dissemination to different Government functionaries, public and other users is already in operation. The concerned State Government authorities and the public are forewarned about the impending cyclone threat through the respective Cyclone Warning Centres of the India Meteorological Department (IMD). Each maritime State has an action plan to reduce the impact of the cyclones, like evacuation of people to safer places, restoring communication, power supply, search and rescue of the missing fishermen and provide relief. India Meteorological department is further inducting new generation Doppler radars for better monitoring of cyclones. This will further improve cyclone preparedness.

Providing Basic Facilities In Slums

666. SHRI SATYA PAL JAIN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are a large number of slum areas in Union Territory, Chandigarh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the facilities of water, electricity, education dispensary etc. have been provided to each person in these localities;

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to provide all such facilities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) to (e) In Chandigarh, following labour colonies are in existance:-

1. Colony No. 4 Industrial Area Phase I. Chandigarh.
2. Janata Colony, Sector 25.
3. Kumhar Colony, Sector 25.
4. Madrasi Colony, Sector 26.
5. Gwala Colony near Railway Bridge.
6. Randhawa Colony, near Railway Crossing.
7. Labour Colony, Sector 31-C.
8. Labour Colony, Sector 53. near village Kajheri.
9. Labour Colony near village Karsan, Phase II.
10. Labour Colony, village Palsora.
11. Kuldip Colony, Sector 52.
12. Adarsh Colony, Sector 54.
13. Sukhanagar Colony, Sector 52.
14. Pandit Colony, Sector 52.

Water supply, by the way of drinking water taps has been made in various colonies. The further steps proposed to be taken are:-